

Washington, DC -- Today, U.S. Representative Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) voted for The Water Quality Financing Act of 2007 (H.R. 720), which reauthorizes the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the primary source of federal funding for clean water through low-interest loans to local communities for construction of wastewater treatment facilities and other clean water projects.

“Safe, clean water improves public health, creates jobs, and stimulates economic development,” Arcuri said. “Providing states and local governments with the resources they need to keep our water infrastructure in the best possible shape pumps money into local economies and keeps families safe from water pollution.”

H.R. 720, The Water Quality Financing Act, ensures clean water and fosters economic development in local communities by providing resources to build and improve wastewater treatment facilities.

Since 1987, when the Clean Water State Revolving Fund became the major federal source of clean water funding, the Fund has provided states with \$53 billion for more than 18,600 low-interest loans to local communities. However, the President’s FY2008 budget proposes \$43,629,000 in cuts to clean water funds for New York.

“Farmers, manufacturers, and people who work in the tourism industry rely on clean water to carry out activities that are the backbone of the Upstate economy. Local governments recognize the importance of Clean Water State Revolving funds and I am proud to help them keep our water clean,” Arcuri said.

Arcuri received a letter from the office of Governor Spitzer urging him to support H.R. 720 because of the critical water needs of communities throughout New York.

H.R. 720 is one of three water quality bills the House passed by bipartisan majorities this week. As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Water Resources and Environment subcommittee Arcuri supported each bill throughout the hearing and committee markup process.

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